

# WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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## MAGDALENE: HER BUSINESS.

She walks in the shady by-ways,  
Or by the city square;  
The great earth's restless highways  
Have known her everywhere;  
A woman no man pities,  
Watching within the night,  
The victim of the cities  
She preys upon their might.

She loiters in the alley,  
And scans the passing throng;  
She answers jest and sally  
When drunkards pass along;  
But staring grimly after  
She curses in the shade  
Their ribaldry and laughter,  
And trembles, half afraid.

Oh, you who prate of kindness  
And His loud praises sing,  
Gaze when you shed your blindness  
On this poor, wounded thing;  
This form that lurks half-crouching  
By Virtue's gates hard-slammed—  
This woman always slouching  
Among the always damned!  
TE ANONA, in the Bulletin.

## The Passing Show.

CONDUCTED BY OTIS.

Mr. McGOWEN admits that he doesn't complain about Gregory Wade stealing his political clothes—says it's a compliment. "Once people thought the Laborites were wild theorists," said Mr. McGOWEN; "now they took their ideas." That's because the economic interests back of each is the same. A decent party finding that any part of its policy was sufficiently fraudulent to invite the theft of it by Leg-Irons Wade would lose no time in doing the Judas trick with a stout piece of rope.

Scobie, M.L.A., told a Phillip electorate audience the other night: "Wade has borrowed the Labor Party's garments, and is wearing them to-day, naked and unashamed." Some people thought Mr. Scobie had made a bull, and several daily papers hastened to joke about the mixture of his metaphor. But there was no bull, and the metaphor was alright. Mr. Scobie was speaking of the Labor Party's political garments; and what he wanted to convey—while getting a metaphorical woodener on to Wade's leg—was that anyone who borrowed the Labor Party's political garments could don them, and still be naked. Mr. Scobie is a candid Labor member who is not afraid to admit that he knows what the Labor Party's political garments consist of—nothingness.

They have a Labor Premier in South Australia. Said Labor Premier is head of all Government departments. Yet when the State-owned tramway department sacked motorman Lloyd because he attended a tramway conference in Sydney, and when the S.A. Trades and Labor Council asked the Labor Premier to compel the tramway manager to either substantiate certain charges against Lloyd or withdraw them, the said Labor Premier replied that it wasn't a matter that concerned him and refused to comply with the Council's request. The Council—or most of it—fell on its collective belly in the mud, and squirmed before the Labor Premier when he refused to see justice done in Lloyd's case. And so, Mr. Verran has created a first great Labor Party precedent. It is that a worker who is victimised for his unionism by a State department must not look to the Labor Government for justice!

In the political tin-soldier fight now raging in N.S.W. some funny things happen sometimes. The leg-ironers of both parties become woefully indiscreet, and display a tendency to turn dog on some of their best pals. The much-rejected Garland (twin political brother to Leg-Irons Wade) was speaking at the Glebe the other night, and was subjected to so much interruption that he got quite mad—especially when Mr. Bowling's name was mentioned. A daily paper reports:

Mr. Garland went on to say that all this laudation of Mr. Bowling was a novelty to some extent. Time was when the Labor Party did not approve of him, and its leaders denounced him—A voice! Name one!  
Mr. Garland: Mr. Holman, for one! He said Bowling was the worst enemy the working man had. (Loud cheer &c.)

When lawyers and strike-breakers fall out, the fool workers are apt to learn just a little about the way they're fooled and sold out.

A week or so ago a strike occurred in the Adelaide timber industry, and a deputation of employers waited on the Minister for Industry (Labor-member Wilson), and told him, *inter alia*: "The employers have confidence that you will take the necessary steps to vindicate the law," etc. That deputation of employers was introduced by Labor-member Anstey! Later on, a deputation of timber workers called on the Minister for Industry, who rated them for having declared that they would strike on the following Monday unless they received one shilling average increase on the ruling rate of wages. The Minister declared the notice served on the employers was too short. (Of course it was. The inconsiderate workers didn't give them time enough to arrange for scab labor.) The Labor Minister then solemnly told the men that he didn't want a strike, and would put something before them that day week!

Melbourne Trades Hall Council has got its first punch in the eye from the Labor Government. The Council requested the Gov. to insert certain clauses in the Federal Arbitration Bill; and the Attorney-General, after declaring how unsatisfactory industrial unrest was, and how a law-abiding community must agree to let the robbers decide as to what extent they shall rob the workers, and how he had never known a strike to be satisfactory [they do say, though, that the breaking of a strike carries weighty "satisfaction"], proceeded to notify the Trades Hall that "it couldn't be did."

The Richmond disaster inquiry has so far revealed the fact that the "black recorder" at South Yarra signal box was a boy of 17; and this paper won't be surprised if Tai's crowd (who are really the responsible persons) endeavor to fix the blame—or a lot of it—on that unfortunate kid.

Robert Bitton, seaman, appeared before the Water Police Court on a recent day, with his head swathed in bandages, his eyes bunged up, and his face generally mutilated. The charge against him was drunkenness, and this was what he told Magistrate Clarke:

He was in Barton-street making his way back to his ship, when a policeman, coming up behind him, said, "Here, you come with me, you're drunk." He replied that he was not drunk, and the officer said it didn't matter whether he was or not, he'd have to go, all the same, whereupon Bitton retorted, "All right, I'll go, you needn't drag me." He was perfectly able to walk, and did walk to the police station. On arrival at the lock-up he was asked his name, and the constable (Dick) was at once "dismissed." Then, the other constable, the one at the desk, rushed at him, seized him by the throat, and nearly strangled him, but witness had presence of mind enough left to shout out "Murder!" several times, and some officers came rushing along the corridor, when the constable who was strangling him at once let him go, and darted back to his seat at the desk. He told the officers that the constable had been trying to strangle him, at which the man at the desk exclaimed, "I would not do such a thing." The officers told the policeman to lock him up in a cell, and somebody with goggles came in and put stitches in him. After he was stitched up he was placed in another cell with five other men.

Of course, the magistrate believed the police evidence, and fined the injured man 5s, with the option of three days' jail!

Another wail ascends to heaven for profits lost to a section of the robber gang. Mr. G. J. Cohen, speaking at the Gas Co.'s meeting, said "the coal strike had cost the Co. over £70,000, and £10,000 had been taken from the reserves." And because the coal strike cost the Gas Co. £70,000, and the coal companies hundreds of thousands, it also cost Peter Bowling and other men their liberty. And now it's going to cost Wade his political billet.

"Evidence given before the Public Works Committee disclosed a remarkable lack of sanitation at North Botany." "Cos why? That's where the workers live, brother!—and their lives don't matter. There's no lack of sanitation-Potts Point way. Sure!"

When Archbishop Kelly made his attack on class-conscious action by the workers, his chairman was Labor-member boot-employer Minahan.

A Sydney tram conductor left Czar Tom Johnson's service with £1 reserve cash (belonging to the department) in his possession. Tom Johnson owed him £12s 4d, wages due; and in spite of the fact that the money Tom Johnson owed him exceeded what he owed Tom Johnson by 2s 4d, Tom Johnson proceeded against him in the police court for fraudulently appropriating the £1! Seems to us there is room for a fool-killer somewhere in the vicinity of Tom Johnson's principal door mat.

A Glebe business man was fined £7 the other day for selling "evaporated cream," which proved to be condensed skim milk. The tins were labelled "Good for Babies," and the Gov. analyst declared that the substance was likely to be dangerous to infants. The business man was given time in which to pay the fine.

Of course, there's no class bias in our law courts; but, all the same, it's interesting to compare the penalty inflicted on this business man who, for private gain, was deliberately jeopardising the lives of infants, and the brutal two-and-half-years-hard-labor sentence on Peter Bowling, whose life-work goes to make conditions safer and brighter and better for the babies as well as for all humanity.

The workers who want their emancipation achieved for them will require a great deal of patience.

What a contrast! The worker complains that he has too little food for his stomach. His epicurean master complains that he has too little stomach for his food.

An employer's life is a constant worry finding other people work.

Gardeners will tell of insects which always eat of the choicest fruit.—Industrialists, curiously enough, can point to the same thing in the field of industry, but we call them parasites—masters.

When workers are asked for their grievance they can point to their lives, one long grievance.

The joy that passeth all understanding is what the worker experiences when securing an extra shilling.

Capitalism would never die if the workers became a race of crawling worms.—Industrialist.

Vic. Labor Party has decided that its members must not belong to any other political party—not even the Commonwealth Protectionist Association; and Labor-member Hannah, who is secretary of said Association, declares he won't get off the fence, because there isn't any fence there, and insists that even if there is a fence there he isn't on it anyhow. An effort to drag the Melbourne Trades Hall into the squabble resulted in 33 votes each way. The Trades and Labor Councils of Australia are rapidly sinking into mere auxiliary departments of a rotten political show.

"A Butcher" tells this paper that, although the Federated Butchers agreed in conference to a demand for the Saturday half-holiday and no late nights, with a view to getting a case before the Federal Arbitration Court, Mr. Lloyd—secretary of the Sydney Butchers, and Labor candidate for Albury—actually joined in with a deputation of master butchers to ask Mr. Wade to allow the master butchers to keep open, and therefore compel the members of Mr. Lloyd's union to work on Saturday afternoons and evenings! "A Butcher" is quite indignant about it. But, say, isn't that the correct Labor Party attitude; and won't the fact go to convince middle class voters down Albury way that Mr. Lloyd is able to represent the master class as well as the working class?

Mr. Wade practically admits that political influence was employed to force Mr. Paterson to resign. Mr. Wade himself wired to Paterson to come to Sydney at once; but history is silent as to what passed between them at the secret interview which followed. Will the miners now add to the Great Betrayal by appointing some one else to the Wages Board?

The International Socialist Bureau furnishes the following estimate of the numbers of Socialists in the countries indicated:—Germany, 2,250,000; France, 1,000,000; United States, 900,000; England, 500,000; Belgium, 500,000; Italy, 300,000; Finland, 337,000.

On Wednesday of last week Mr. Paterson "was hurriedly called to Sydney by wire," and on Thursday the papers announced that he had resigned from the coal-miners' wages board. And thereby hangs a tale.

At a recent Adelaide welcome function to Mr. Thompson Green (a "Labor" member), Mr. T. Montgomery—one of the perennial jokes of the United Labor Party—told a wondering audience: "They had a good, strong Cornish miner in Johnny Verran, at the head of affairs, and he was sure no red-rag Socialist would dare to ask the Labor Party to do any revolutionary work." Of course Mr. Montgomery is right. Anyone who could seriously ask Johnny Verran and Co. to do anything of a revolutionary working-class nature would be qualifying for a certain asylum that was built to accommodate the Montgomerys and other giddy-brained plungers of the world of shandygaff politics.

Mr. Tim McCrystal, who seems to be the alpha and omega of the *Daily Telegraph's* "new party," was elected president of the Wharf-laborers' Union by the votes of the Hughes faction, the late president (Kelly) having disagreed with the Strike-breaker. Now the Hughesites are reaching out for his scalp because he is giving the show away, and also because he spoke in support of the "only bona-fide, locally-selected" Labor candidate for Belmore, employer English (who is bumping employer Minahan, the "only constitutionally-selected-by-the-Executive" candidate). Mr. O'Meara, who quite recently couldn't find language strong enough to curse Hughes for a blackleg, told the W.L. meeting that "as soon as Mr. Hughes returned, the new party would go to pieces." Which seems to be especially severe on Tim McCrystal, "seeing as how Tim is the new party."

Labor-member West made a perfectly justifiable attack on the 1890 State Government of N.S.W. in connection with the villainy of its conduct in the maritime strike. Bruce Smith snorted; and next day West unreservedly called back all he had said, and declared his only regret was that he couldn't delete every line of his utterances from *Hansard*! Sort of politics that makes one feel like holding his head and calling for the steward!

Rev. Schaefer calls working-class Sydney a drink-cursed city. He doesn't make any attack on the wealthy drunkards. Working-class Sydney is apt to regard the reverend slanderer as something too strong to find adequate expression in dictionaryal phraseology.

The workers cannot rise to a sense of their own manhood without upsetting those on top of them.

The saddest thing on earth is hearing a wage-slave boasting of his freedom. The most comical thing is hearing his master praising him for so doing.

The working-class spirit is alright till it is diluted with "reformism."

The worker who thinks he has all that is necessary is mistaken. He has no brains.

Our masters may well praise the virtues of charity. They have lived on it long enough.—Industrialist.

Craft unionism is providing another pitiable wrangle for the delectation of the master class. The Secretary of the Engine-drivers makes a charge in the public press against the Millers' Union of "stealing" the members of his union. He points out that the reason employers desire to "see the engine-drivers in the Millers' Union" is because the Wages Board "award governing engine-drivers is the grain mills provided for less wages and more hours per day for engine-drivers than the coast engine-drivers' award." And so Mr. Mitchell (Engine-drivers' secretary) charges Mr. Lewis (Millers' secretary) with joining hands with the mill employers to get the jurisdiction over engine-drivers given to the Miller's Union—apparently for the purpose of giving the employers the benefit of the lower wage-rates.

Surely such lamentable industrial squabbles and tragical absurdities provide solid arguments for Industrial Unionism and no divided forces and conflicting wage-rates.

The table of wealth is spread by the workers. If they insist on being waiters so much the worse for them.—Industrialist.



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For the purpose of raising money for the Press Fund the International Socialist Club will hold a FAIR, CONCERT, and DANCE in the

### Manchester Unity Hall,

On FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1910.

We invite women comrades and friends of all nationalities who will help us by assisting at the stalls or taking part in the tableaux to communicate with the Secretary.

We also ask all friends and sympathisers to send along as soon as possible any gifts or donations in money that they may feel inclined to give. Such gifts and donations should be sent to the Secretary, International Socialist Club, 274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

F. W. HARRIS, Secretary.

## International Socialist Club.

Members are notified that the monthly general meeting will be held THIS THURSDAY EVENING, August 11, 1910. All members are requested to attend. Important business.

F. W. HARRIS, Secretary.

The International Socialist Party will hold a Select Social in the Queen's Hall, Sydney, on Tuesday, August 23. Double Tickets, 1s 6d; Single, 1s. Don't You Miss It!

The capitalist is scarcely ever too senile to reap the profits of labor. The worker is scarcely ever too young to produce things.—Industrialist.

The locks shall burst in sunder,  
The hinges shrieking spin,  
When Time, whose hand is Thunder,  
Lays hand upon the pin,  
And shoots the bolts reluctant, bidding all men in.  
—SWINBURNE.

## Glorifying a Murderer.

BY H. E. HOLLAND.

SYDNEY Labor Council has done some queer things in its day. Over a year ago, the International Socialists asked that the Council should hear a lecture from Mr. Scott Bennett on "Industrial Unionism." The request was turned down for the one and only reason that the International Socialists were opposed to the middle-class Labor Party. Only the other day, a similar request from the I.W.W. Club met with the same fate. But, while the Council won't hear working-class lecturers on working-class subjects, it joyfully opens its doors to lecturers from the Master Class. One such is Professor David, and recently he delivered a lecture on "Mexico" to the Council delegates. A daily paper reports that Professor David paid a high tribute to the ability of President Diaz. "He said that during his 30 years' rule the President had lifted Mexico from an ordinary turbulent Central American Republic to a high position amongst the world's nations. His rule had been of iron, but the progress the country had made under it had been so remarkable, that throughout there had been no opposition, and that to-day President Diaz swayed the people just as he wished. As an instance of his ability to deal in novel but effective ways with difficult situations, the lecturer mentioned that some few years ago a particular section of the Mexicans were renowned as the most expert horse thieves in the world. They easily evaded capture, and it seemed that nothing could check the impunity with which they appropriated other people's stock. But the President had them appointed policemen, with the result that they developed into the Republic's most vigilant officers, being, if anything, a trifle too severe on the horse thief."

Now, the hands of Porfirio Diaz are the blood-red hands of the murderer. He is corruptionist as well. On the last Sunday in June he "made himself president of Mexico for the eighth time," as London *Justice* puts it. "The election, of course, was a farce. In order to ensure victory for himself he had the opposition candidate, and everyone else of a menacing character, carefully stowed away in prison. Ready to take advantage of any excuse for shedding blood, he had troops held in readiness wherever there was any likelihood of the result of the election being disagreed with. In many ways Diaz is a remarkable man. Truly a man of blood and iron. He is now 80 years old, and has been master of Mexico for very many years. His rule has been an infamous one. All the horrors charged to the Russian Czarism could also be laid to the charge of this Czar of Mexico. Zayas, the brilliant Mexican cartoonist, in one of his clever drawings, pictures Diaz grasping in his hand a blood-stained sabre, surrounded by vultures, sitting on a heap of skulls. That pretty well epitomises his rule. Anyone desiring reforms, anyone daring to differ even in the mildest manner, has either been assassinated, hounded out of the country, or condemned to a living death in the horrible prison of San Juan de Ulua or the fever-stricken hell of Belen. Strikes have been suppressed by wholesale massacres and hangings—like that of Cananea—editors of opposition papers have been secretly murdered; politicians have been forced to rot in prison tombs, like poor Juan Sarabia, who is now dying of consumption in the fortress of San Juan de Ulua, all in order that Diaz and the Yankee plutocrats—whose pliant tool he is—may retain their

hands on the purse-strings and resources of that unfortunate country. The stories of Magnon, Villarreal and Rivera, of De Lara, of Modesta Diaz, of John Kenneth Turner, and scores of others, all go to prove what a monster this human beast is. Eighty, white-haired, palsied with age, feeble under the weight of years, he yet continues to dabble his hands in the blood of the Mexican people, and to utilise for his own foul ends one of the fairest countries on the face of the earth."

And this is the monster—the murderer of striking unionists; the man who takes the professional horse-thieves and makes them into ferocious policemen, and employs them to hang and massacre striking workers, to secretly murder the conductors of working-class or antagonistic papers—this is the human brute of whose virtues Sydney Labor Council permits a chattering professor, his heart aglow for the interests of the employing class, to gabble into the ears of its dull incomprehensibility. And no one there knew enough to arise in wrath and tell the "professor" that he was talking flapdoodle—which, as Mr. O'Brien told Peter Simple, is the stuff they feed fools on.

When one has read the story of "The Bloody Strike of Rio Blanco," as told by John Kenneth Turner, in a recent *Appeal to Reason*, one is inclined to weep for the deplorably uninformed condition of the representatives of the economic organisations of the working-class in Australia that makes such a lecture as that of Professor David possible in the halls of Labor without indignant protest. Turner graphically describes the conditions which led up to a strike on the part of 8000 laborers at Rio Blanco, in the cotton industry. Under the rule of Diaz every law operates for the employer, and every revolting piece of State machinery is placed at the service of the employer when industrial troubles occur. The eight thousand workers in the Rio Blanco mill revolted against 13 hours a day for a wage that ranged only from one shilling to one shilling and threepence per day; they also rebelled against being compelled to pay out of their pitiable earnings 4s a week to the Company for the two-roomed, dirt-floor hovels they were compelled to live in; and they further objected to being paid in credit checks upon the Company's store, by which means the Company wrested from them very cent. that it paid them as wages. These Rio Blanco workers secretly organised a union, which they called "The Circle of Workers." They held their meetings in small groups in their own homes, in order that the authorities might not learn of their doings; for, be it remembered, President Diaz was behind the Company. He was not only the Government of Mexico, says Turner. He was also a heavy stockholder in this infamous Company. Among the organisers of the Union was Margaret Martinez, a young factory girl, "who became a shining figure on that last bloody day when the soldiers mowed the people down." As soon as Diaz's Government learned that organising work was going on, action was taken through the police department; a general order was issued forbidding any of the operatives to receive any visitors whatever. Their own relatives were even debarred; and the penalty for disobedience was jail. Diaz seems to have a mind that runs parallel ways with that of the N.S.W. Premier. "Persons who were suspected of having signed the roll of the union were put in jail, and a weekly paper known to be friendly to the workers was swooped down upon, suppressed, and the printing plant confiscated." At this juncture a strike occurred at the Puebla mills, in an adjoining state. The Puebla mills were owned by the same com-

pany as those of Rio Blanco; and the Rio Blanco workers decided to delay their own projected strike in order to send assistance to their comrades at Puebla. The mill-owners had decided to quietly starve the Puebla workers into submission. But the action of the Rio Blanco employees threatened to defeat their wishes, and so they determined to shut down the Rio Blanco mills in order to cut off supplies from that quarter. As soon as the lockout was declared by the employers, the workers of Rio Blanco assumed the offensive, declared a strike, and formulated demands for better conditions. The Company (Diaz' Company) stopped all credit, and laughed in the faces of the workers. Eight thousand men and women and children starved. They climbed the hills and explored the country for berries, and when these were gone they ate roots and herbs gleaned from the mountain side. Slow death menaced them.

They appealed to Diaz, who pretended to investigate their case, and relentlessly ordered them back to work—to long hours and low wages—on worse conditions than before. They had no choice, and prepared to comply. But they were weak with hunger and starvation. They wanted food to give them strength to work; so, on the day of their surrender, they appeared before the Company's store, and asked that each might be given credit for a certain quantity of corn and beans, so that they might live through the first week. The manager jeered at them. "To these dogs we will not give even water!" he said.

It was Sir E. Shackleton, the explorer, and lionised darling of the "upper" classes, who—describing the sensation of hunger experienced by his party on a certain occasion—declared that before such hunger all authority and ownership must give way, and that he and his comrades were in such a condition that the prospect of death would not have debarred them from taking food, no matter to whom it belonged, if it had been available.

So it was with the Rio Blanco strikers. Shriek and high above the supplications of the starving strikers now rose the call of Margarita Martinez. "They call us dogs!" she cried. "Let us show them that we can be men and women. We begged for this food, and they called us dogs. Now let us take it like men. Long enough have we starved. Let us eat our fill." Down from the box she sprang, and forced her way into the store, followed by the starving multitude. They took their fill of food, and set fire to the store. "In their new-found power they forgot the towering might of the company and the ominous thing that stood behind it. For the moment they imagined themselves free men and women, and not merely a crowd of starving strikers in a frenzy. They had not expected to riot, but the government had expected it—perhaps even had intended that they should do so. Unknown to the strikers, battalions of regular soldiers were waiting just outside the town, under command of General Rosalio Martinez himself, sub-secretary of war. The strikers had no arms. They were not prepared for revolution."

The soldiers came. Volley after volley was fired into the crowd at close range. There was no resistance. Without regard for age or sex, people were shot down in the streets, many women and children being amongst the slain. They were pursued to their houses, and dragged out, and shot to death. Those who fled to the hills were hunted for days, and shot on sight. "A company of rural guards refused to fire on the crowd when the soldiers first arrived, and was exterminated on the spot." It is estimated that from 200 to 800 were massacred in this way.

"I don't know how many were killed," the man who rode with the *rurales* told me, says Turner, "but on the first night after the soldiers came I saw two flat cars piled high with dead and mangled bodies, and there were a good many killed after the first night." "Those flat cars," the same informant told me, "were hauled away by special train that night, and hurried to Vera Cruz, where the bodies were dumped in the harbor as food for the sharks."

Those who escaped death by shooting were subjected to various tortures. Men were rounded up into a bull pen, and 500 of them were impressed into the army, and sent to Quintano Roo, where the percentage of death for the convict soldier is almost as great as that for the slave of the tobacco barons of the terrible Valle Nacional."

Newspaper men who favored the strikers and wrote down the rule of Diaz, were imprisoned for long terms. One journalist, Justino Fernandez, was tortured until he lost his reason. Diaz gave orders that the reading of the mill workers was to be censored, and no radical newspapers or advanced literature permitted to get into their hands. He also ordered that any one suspected of having evil intentions was to be killed instantly! And this reign of terror has



been maintained. Men who have incautiously declared themselves have suddenly disappeared—and for ever. A cultivated Mexican told Turner: "The history of Mexico for the past 30 years has been the history of fifteen million people afraid of one man—and afraid with good reason."

Margarita Martinez, the heroic girl who led the strikers from starvation to death, passed unscathed through the rain of steel bullets. "Her death—if death has already come to her—was more lingering, her agony more prolonged. On the night of the massacre was she dragged to the Rio Blanco jail, where she lay for several days in solitary confinement. She was never taken before a judge, but with a handful of others who were supposed to be lesser leaders of the bread riot, she was hustled away to Vera Cruz, shoved into a little boat, carried over those same shark-infested waters which had swallowed her mangled comrades, landed at the fortress of San Juan de Ulua, the *prison of Diaz*, and there was buried—alive! Exactly what tortures Margarita Martinez endured before she died, even whether she is dead or not, none but the grim prison officers can tell. For no one who goes as a prisoner to San Juan de Ulua is ever permitted to communicate with the outside world. They cross the harbor in a little boat, they disappear in the grey walls and that is all. Their friends never learn how they get on, nor when they die or how. Yet there are facts known about the prison of San Juan de Ulua which permit one to surmise the fate of the heroic cotton spinner—facts which fully justify one in saying that imprisonment there is burial alive. It is known that the apartments where the prisoners are confined are below the sea, that through the cement walls the salt water from the ocean drips, drips, drips, night and day down to the hard and naked floor. It is known that the cells are so small that the prisoner can never lie straight, that larger cells are crowded like the Black Hole of Calcutta, that political prisoners are fed on the vilest of garbage, that they are beaten and tortured, that they die fast and are fed to the sharks.

"It was to such a living tomb that Margarita Martinez was sent three and one-half years ago, a martyr to the cause of labor. Long ago she may have passed away. On the other hand, she may be still alive. If she still lives, it is hope that is the breath of life to her—hope of the coming of a less despotic government which, if it does not set her free at once, will at least charge her with some definite offence and give her a trial. Or hope of something far grander than that, hope that her own people, the toilers of Rio Blanco, the slaves of the hot lands, the peons of the plateau, the common people of Mexico, will overthrow the despot, will open the doors of San Juan de Ulua and of every other hell-hole where Mexican political prisoners are confined, and will lead them, cheering, out into the sunlight and freedom."

This, then, is the tale of the "benevolent despotism" of Diaz which has lifted Mexico, according to Professor David, to "a high place among the nations!" This is the doings of the man in whom the Professor asked the working-class unionists of Sydney Labor Council to see a hero, a patriot, and a genius.

The world's organized workers see in him only a brutal tyrant, a hateful torturer, a bloody-handed murderer! And this writer can't help feeling that, if Professor David knows Mexican history at all, he must have known that he was not speaking the whole truth to the Labor Councilors of Sydney; and, accordingly he must have marvelled at the cheerful innocence with which his extraordinary asseverations concerning Diaz were received and applauded.

This paper re-echoes the sentiment of *Justice*: "Thank goodness, he (Diaz) cannot live much longer." A Socialist movement will grow up in Mexico that will render the rule of such a criminal and the triumph of such criminality an utter impossibility. In the meantime, Professor David might be reminded that not even the deplorably-uninformed condition of his hearers in the matter of Mexican working-class history could justify his incredible presentation of the case for Diaz. And the Unions might consider whether a veto ought not to be placed on the coming of men of the master class to the Council to mislead the workers and glorify the murderers of their class!

The society lady and the worker have both good reasons for concealing their ages when they reach 40.

The robbery of the workers is an academic problem to all but the workers. Hence the need for a working class movement.—*Industrialist*.

Christian England is hustling along with some more murder machinery: "The British cruiser-battleship *Lion* has been successfully launched from the Devonport yards. She is 26,360 tons displacement, and carries eight 13.5 guns."

## S.F.A. News & Notes.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

BY H. S. CLARKE.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST came to hand in good time this week. The paper is selling well here.

It has come at last! Blundell, M.L.A., of Renmark fame, has expiated his offence by shedding his blood for the workers. It happened this way. The Tuesday following the strike of the men on the Islington pipe track, Peake and Homburg asked questions in Parliament re the exclusion of the press from the interview which Verran had with the representatives of the men, and also re a report of the men's meeting that appeared in the press. After the Premier had answered them, Peake moved the adjournment of the House to draw attention to the matter, and he rated the Premier for allowing the men 15 minutes of the taxpayers' time. The Premier, in a lengthy reply of an apologetic nature, stated that the work would only last another three weeks, and that his action must not be taken as a precedent, and he incidentally threw out an insult to the men by stating that one of the questions that the men had struck about was only introduced to belittle the Labor Party. But he was a bit off the track, as the workers are too busy at present endeavoring to improve their conditions to waste time belittling a party that is so ably performing that office for themselves. The workers are only desirous of letting the Premier know that it was not cookies' votes alone that placed him in his present position, but that at least a few deluded workers also voted for him, as they did not know at the time that his many promises were only made because "he was out to win that election."

It appears that even the conscience of Blundell rebelled against such a couldn't-help-it, had-to-do-it, sorry-for-it, kind of speech from the Premier. And so the *Register* reports that whilst Blundell was thundering forth the fact that since the supposed working-class party was elected on the promise of 8s a day and better conditions, it was only right that its members should carry out their promises, he thumped the table so hard that his knuckles were bleeding when he finished.

The Liquor Trades Employees' Union held a smoke-social recently, which was attended by alleged Labor members, brewery employers, etc. Among the toasts honored was that of "Our employers." The speakers to each of the toasts jubilated over the fact that their union's shame was now complete, as the relations existing between the exploiter and the exploited in the liquor trade were perfectly amicable. This statement was cheered each time it was uttered, and extra cheers were given when one of the exploiters repeated it on behalf of the robber class. And not long ago I saw a banner which was inscribed: "Behold, the workers think!"

Another lesson in direct action was given recently at Port Adelaide. The employers in the ship-building industry conceded the demands made by the shipwrights, who were out on strike, but one shop insisted on employing two seals who the employers claimed were improvers. But the men declined to work in any of the shops until the seals were dismissed. The result was that the "strike-breakers" were fired, and the men then returned to work.

Another advertisement for wages boards: The Federated Sawmills, Timber-yards, and General Woodworkers Association, whose members have been working long hours for short pay, secured an award from a wages-board which left them in a worse position than they were in before. The question of bettering their conditions and wages having dragged on since 1907, and no improvement having resulted, either from wages boards or conferences, the men decided that unless they received a minimum wage of 8s, and a general bettering of their conditions, all the work in the timber yards would cease on Aug. 1. But we have a Government in power which now represents all classes in the community, and recognising this, the employers waited on the supposed working-class Minister for Industry (Wilson), and requested him to try and bring about a settlement. Incidentally they pointed out to him that the Wages Board Act provided for penalties being recovered against the union, and also against each member if they struck work. The employees also waited on the Minister, and put their side of the question, and the result was that a conference was arranged between the bosses and the men. The conference took place on Friday; it was a secret conference, and Attorney-General Denny and Wilson (Minister for Industry) were both present. Denny stated after the conference that those present were bound to secrecy, and the only information available to the press was that the conference was adjourned until next week, and so the strike will not eventuate on Monday, and it is Adelaide to a penny that before this appears in print the usual compromise will take place, and the men will still be working, under slightly improved conditions.

Joseph McCabe arrived in Adelaide on Friday, and in the evening he was given a reception at Brickwell's cafe. Dr. Pullen

presided, and speakers from the Theosophical Society, Trades and Labor Council, and the Socialist Party, welcomed the lecturer. On Sunday afternoon Mr. McCabe delivered a lecture on "The End of the World," in the Tivoli Theatre, and the fact of hundreds having to be refused admittance must have been a fearful sight to the Mayor of Adelaide and other hypocrites who refused to let their halls and theatres for this lecture.

### SYDNEY JOTTINGS.

At its last meeting the Executive of the International Socialist Party carried the following resolution: "That, whereas the workers are always right and never wrong when they meet the exploiting class in the clash of conflict on the industrial field; and whereas the employers appear to have forced the present conflict in order to unload their surplus-cold storage supplies, thus compelling the public to purchase stale meat; Resolved that this Executive congratulates the slaughtermen on the action they have taken, and pledges the International Socialist Party to render them whatever assistance it is in their power to give."

Mrs. Lynch, who has been dangerously ill, is now recovering. We shall gladly welcome her back to the ranks of our speakers.

The International Socialists have decided to organise a monster Socialist demonstration to welcome Peter Bowling when he is liberated.

On Sunday, the usual propaganda meetings were held. The Domain meeting was a huge success. Comrade Harris took the chair, the speakers were Riley, Wilson and Feldhausen. Comrade Wilson delivered a splendid speech on Anti-Militarism, and was closely followed by one of the largest audiences yet addressed by our speakers in the domain. Literature sellers were kept busy, and all available copies of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST were disposed of.

The evening meetings at Martin Place and Goulburn-street were well attended. The speakers were Harris, Riley, Feldhausen, Shade and Wilson.

At last general meeting it was decided that comrade Wilson should take in hand the speakers' class; also that an invitation be extended to opponents of Socialism to attend same. The class will meet every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

During the week comrades N. Appleton and J. Lee were taken to Sydney Hospital, as a result of injuries received while working on the wharves.

On Tuesday evening, 23rd inst., at Queen's Hall, Pitt-street, a dance will be held for the raising of money for the Socialist War Fund. Comrades are asked to make the event known among their friends. Single tickets, 1s; double, 1s 6d.

M. P. Considine will be released from Darlinghurst on Tuesday next, 16th instant, at about 6.30 a.m. Socialists are requested to meet him at the gates. On the following Friday he will be entertained at the Club rooms.

### Administrative Council.

A meeting of the above was held on Tuesday evening.

Correspondence was received from the Prime Minister, acknowledging receipt of Conference resolutions. From Victorian branch, challenging Conference decision re the non-voting clause, and calling for a referendum.

Resolved that referendum be taken. Recommendations to National Executive as to method of taking same, etc., were carried.

Victoria also referred press amalgamation scheme to National Executive for amendment. Recommended that Victoria be asked to furnish a counter scheme.

In accordance with Conference decisions, it was decided to ask the treasurers of the Holland Fund to close their books and present balance-sheet for publication in the Socialist press.

The Leg-Irons fraternity, in their squintings before the electors, endeavor to discredit Peter Bowling by quoting Labor Party men. C. W. Oakes, at Paddington, recently, sank down to this muddiness, and told his hearers of how "Mr. Holman had said that the men had been led to mischief and ruin by agitators. Could they have a stronger indictment against Bowling than that? And Mr. Hughes went even further by refusing to sign a petition for his release." Mr. Oakes and his fellow Leg-Irons seem to imagine that the slanders, lies, traitorisms, and treacheries of middle-class, political opportunists furnish a justification for their villainy.

The wealth of the world is the stolen property of Labor.

For B-ulula, the P.L.L. Executive has turned down Ike Smith, one of the best of the bush unionists, in favor of C. J. Danahy, who rattled to the Reid party in the early nineties. This is the experience all along the line. The genuine wage-worker goes out; the professional and middle-class politician scores—and exploits Labor!

Class consciousness is a means of getting rid of classes and class hatred. Mastery will never cease until the robbed recognise that they are robbed.

## Open Column.

### The Proposed Workmen's Compensation Act, 1910

EDITOR, THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.—Is it not somewhat suggestive that the Bill now before the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales appears to be almost identical with the Queensland Workmen's Compensation Act of 1905, except that in the New South Wales Bill above referred to the liability of the employer in respect of total or partial incapacity resulting from accident is limited to one Hundred Pounds, whereas in the Queensland Act, the liability for similar cases is to the extent of Four Hundred Pounds. I wonder, Mr. Editor, if Mr. Wade simply instructed his office boy to copy out the Queensland Act and the latter made a clerical error in the figure constituting the difference between it and the proposed New South Wales Act? Surely as a result of such a glorious effort to benefit the worker, Mr. Wade and his Legislative Council must have suffered severely from brain-fag!

Both the above Acts are, from the standpoint of the "worker," much inferior to the British Act of 1906. In the Queensland Act and the New South Wales Bill, wilful and serious misconduct of the workman exonerates the employer from liability in respect of any accident. In the British Act this is not the case, except in minor accidents. In the Queensland Act the weekly compensation of half wages is limited to £1 a week, not to exceed a total payment of £100. In the New South Wales Act the weekly payment of half wages is limited to £1, not to exceed £100. In the British Act the weekly amount is the same percentage of wages, as both the last-mentioned Acts, but it is not limited to any amount, in the case of manual workers.

In the British Act, compensation is payable after seven days' disablement, and if it lasts more than fourteen days the compensation dates back to the time of the accident. In the New South Wales Bill no compensation is payable in respect of the first 14 weeks.

In the N.S.W. Bill, "Employer" is stated to mean a person who habitually employs at least four persons in his trade or business, etc., etc. The British Act makes no exception of this kind, but on the other hand includes *Domestic Servants, Clerks, Shop Assistants, Commercial Travellers, Casuals, etc.* No provision is made for these grades of workers in the N.S.W. Bill.

If the N.S.W. Bill is allowed to pass in its present form, great injustice will be done to hundreds of thousands of N.S.W. workers. Moreover, small employers would have difficulty in retaining the services of their employees, because of the latter not being covered against accidents. The N.S.W. Bill is therefore an injustice to small employers, also when the Bill becomes law all employers affected by it will insure. The insurance will cover their liability under the new and all existing Acts. The cost of the insurance will increase the cost of production—because the profits of the employer are sacred to the capitalist and his legislator. All grades of society will have to pay for it with interest in their purchases of the necessities of life. The small employer will still have to face the liability of existing acts, whereas, if he had been included in this Act it would (as in the case of other employers affected thereby) have been better for his security.

Some fools of employers affected by the Bill are worrying about the expense of it. Others, as just stated, are wise enough to see that being universal all people will have to contribute to it and pay their interest, in addition to paying their own share of the cost—leaving the employers free from liability than before the passing of the Act. It is, like protective tariffs, enough to make the gods laugh, if it were not a subject for tears where the worker is concerned.

No reduction of compensation is stipulated for in the case of aged and infirm workers in the British Act, but in the Queensland Act and the N.S.W. Bill the compensation is reduced to £50 and £25 respectively. Poor old and infirm brother and sister workers! How justly Mr. Wade and his party wish to treat you!

In the British Act provision is made for increase of compensation in the case of minors on obtaining their majority. No provision of this kind is made in the other two Acts.

Although the principal maximum and minimum amounts payable as compensation in the event of death under the British Act (£200 and £150) are less than under the other two Acts, when the increased purchasing power of money spent in Britain is considered, the British Act is in every respect very much in advance of the Australian Bill in the benefits it confers upon workers.

Surely the Aesthian worker is entitled to compensation equal at least to that paid to his British brother.

The passing into law of Workmen's Compensation Insurance in any country is an admission on the part of the ruling classes of the liability of employers generally to workers in respect of accidents fatal and otherwise. Why do the employers, then, shrink completely pecuniary compensation? Either they are wholly liable or not.

I hope the workers and lovers of fair play will do their utmost to advance the cause of Socialism; and at the next election vote for the overthrow of the present Liberal (?) Administration, and show Mr. Wade and his class that commercial travellers, clerks, shop assistants, domestic servants and workers generally are not to be treated servilely in the Twentieth Century.—Yours, etc., A RAY OF INTELLIGENCE EMANATING FROM THE SPIRIT OF THE GREAT BOSSCAST.

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All communications to be addressed to O. W. Jorgensen, secretary, Press Fund Committee, 271 Pitt-street, Sydney.



## Towards Human Freedom.

BY J. R. WILSON.  
**Chattel Slavery.**

WHEN we read of ancient Egypt, most of us can hardly realize that it was a slave-owning empire, and that the Pyramids, which make travellers pause and wonder, and which were built centuries ago, and have seen the rise and fall of empires, were built by the labor of slaves extending over many centuries.

Students are also acquainted with the slave civilisation of Greece and Rome, of the wondrous work done by the armies of slaves under the direction of men of genius who were themselves slaves, and we are reminded that Homer, the great poet of antiquity, and Esop, the famous fabulist, were both slaves, while the Roman roads—traces of which still exist in Britain and on the continent—were the work of the slaves of the Roman Empire.

The slave civilisation lasting many centuries, Europe came to be divided into two classes—Freemen and Slaves, the slaves of the chattel slave period, like the wage-slaves of the twentieth century, doing all the useful work and receiving only enough to keep them in good working condition. Indeed, it cannot be said of the wage-slave of our time that he can always secure enough food and raiment, because, unlike the chattel-slave period, the whole labor-power of the community is not required, and in time of industrial depression, when the services of the modern slave is dispensed with, he has to live as best he can until he finds an employer, while in contradistinction to this, the slave of antiquity was at least sure of his food and shelter.

It is true that the chattel slave was bought and sold as a horse is secured or disposed of in our day, and that his life was entirely in the hands of his master, although towards the close of the chattel slave period there were many laws enforced which tended to secure for him a certain amount of comfort, and to punish those who abused him.

Looking a-down the corridors of time, we are apt to comfort ourselves with the thought that those days are gone and slavery does not exist to-day, but by the time we are finished we will discover that slavery does exist, and that the difference is of kind, and not of degree.

Having seen that as man began to cultivate the land and enslaved woman, later compelling the captives of war to take the place of the women of the tribe, and so making possible the rise of chattel slavery, let us ask what were the forces which determined the passing from chattel slavery to Feudalism. Some one once remarked that that the passing from one system of society in the past was the result of unbearable economic conditions, and undoubtedly there is more truth in that statement than the majority of mankind are prepared to admit.

As the slaves became more numerous, and the luxury they made possible caused their masters to become more extravagant, as well as more dissolute, there were repeated revolts of thousands of slaves, which, though suppressed with the utmost brutality, helped to shake the slave civilisation to its foundation.

But there was another factor. The handicraftsman, or skilled artisan, had made his appearance, and the medieval city was formed, the population of which was constantly added to by the slaves who had revolted and escaped, and, as the cities became more powerful, the slave owners ceased—owing to the influence of the city population and the numerous and widespread revolts—to exercise the power of life and death over the slaves, owning only the land, from which the serf, as the slave

came to be known, was not permitted to leave.

And so mankind passed from the chattel slavery of the ancient world to the feudal system with its chivalry and romance.

### Feudalism.

The earliest records of the Feudal system all go to prove that the Baron, or Lord of the Manor, as the owner of the land was then called, had certain functions to perform. He was supposed to administer justice, act as guardian and protector, and in times of warfare and trouble with neighboring barons the serf followed his standard to battle.

During the feudal period land was the great economic factor, and as the baron required supplies for his household the serf was compelled to till so much land and work so many days of the week for the feudal lord, being allowed a plot of land in return to provide for his own requirements. If there is one thing distinguishes the feudal system from the system which preceded it, it is the almost incessant wars between the various barons. It is said by romancists such as Sir Walter Scott that the barons lived by the sword, and it may be said just as truly that they perished by the sword.

As they made war upon one another, and the more powerful barons overcame the weaker, they added, in the words of scripture, house to house and field to field, they became rich in territory, and gained power by the ever-increasing number of their followers.

Those wars raged almost without ceasing excepting when the tillage of the fields compelled a truce, a fact significant in itself to the economic student, because those wars can be likened unto the commercial rivalry and competition of modern times. The result, as Lafargue rightly remarks, is the same; both culminate in the concentration of property and the social supremacy which it bestows.

The result of this concentration of land was that the wars became fewer, or when carried on were on a much larger scale. No longer able to follow warfare as a profession, the barons, who had formerly performed a function in society withdrew to the courts of the then rising monarchies, and became a thoroughly parasitic class, performing no function whatsoever, and levying ever heavier dues upon the serfs.

The moment they became as a class thoroughly parasitic their doom was sealed, and it was only a matter of time until the feudal villages which had steadily grown in size and population, within whose walls had sprung up the handicraftsman, took upon themselves the responsibility of defence. In the feudal cities the instrument of labor was owned by the individual who used it, compelling him to a lifelong execution of a single operation, which in time determined that certain industries fell to the lot of certain individuals, and in this way there came into existence the professional handicraftsmen—smith, weaver, shoe-maker—all of whom were destined as handicraftsmen to disappear with the introduction of complex labor-saving machinery. It may be said, in summing up, that the feudal system went by the board partly on account of the concentration of land, which relieved the barons of the function they at one time performed and by making impossible their living by warfare, and on the other, by the introduction of the machine, which determined the downfall of the handicraftsman, and the laying of the foundation stones of the Capitalist State.

To be continued.

No man exactly knows how industry will be managed under Socialism, because Socialism is not a scheme for governing others. But it will be managed just as you want it to be.

## The Slaughtermen's Strike.

### Will Wade leg-iron the Bosses?

For nearly 50 years the slaughtermen at Glebe Island have been paid weekly wages. The employers recently determined to substitute piece-work rates, and fixed these at 2½s per 100 for sheep, whereas in the country the price is 25s per 100. They also decided to make startling alterations in the starting hours. At the present time, the men start work at 6 o'clock on four mornings and 5 o'clock on two mornings. The masters demand that shall start at 5 on four mornings, and 6 o'clock on two mornings during winter time; and in the summer 5 o'clock on four mornings, and 4 o'clock on two mornings. The men want to start at 6 o'clock on five mornings, and 5 o'clock on one morning. It is pointed out that if the employers' demands are enforced the men would often have to be on the job at 3 a.m. with a chance of either not getting a start or only getting work for an hour or so; and it is further contended that neither the outrageous hours stipulated by the bosses nor the piece-work rates are necessary.

There appears to be only one reason why the employers have forced the trouble at this juncture. They have large quantities of stale frozen meat on their hands, and they have created the present trouble in order to compel the public—at the point of a loaded gun, as it were—to save them from possible loss in this direction. Only by means of an industrial struggle could they achieve this. And so they fling their impossible and brutal conditions, their long hours and low piece-work rates, which they well knew could not be accepted, at the Slaughtermen's Unionists! They knew the men would have a strike. Indeed, the struggle is not a strike; it is a lockout. And the employers succeed in saving themselves from loss by cutting off all meat supplies from the public except the stale and decaying frozen stuff they wish to dispose of. The workers will eat the decaying abomination and fill the bosses' pockets at the same time, while they prolong the strife with the Union just long enough to enable them to unload their cold-storage supplies.

How determined they are in their organized profit-making was revealed at the recent meeting at Homebush, when the buyers and agents met to devise ways and means of defeating the workers and compelling the public to eat frozen meat. At that meeting Mr. T. Field complained that "the position was aggravated by the cattle slaughtermen coming out in sympathy with the sheep men." The bosses apparently only had frozen sheep to unload on the public. They didn't want the cattle slaughtermen to strike.

Manager Gee, of the Sydney Meat Preserving Co., is reported in the daily press to have strenuously advocated blacklisting and boycotting the men who had refused to knuckle under to the bosses' terms at Glebe Island.

In answer to a question whether metropolitan houses would employ the strike men, Mr. Alban Gee said he had discussed the matter with the Riverstone Meat Company. He had pointed out that the master butchers must stand together. It would be a moral fraud for them to put on extra men. Personally he would not employ them if he got them for nothing.

Mr. McCulloch (manager Messrs. John Cook and Co.) said his works were closed down till the 18th. After that he would be prepared to buy 20,000 sheep a week at Homebush, as well as cattle, but only for export.

Mr. R. M. Pitt said the Aberdeen Meat Works would not supply meat to Sydney.

Mr. Gee said he was prepared to treat 20,000 sheep per week for export. All he bought would go into the tins.

Here is determined and barefaced conspiracy on the part of a gang of exploiters to cut all fresh meat supplies off from Sydney in order to benefit themselves financially.

Let us ask Mr. Leg-iron Wade whether he intends to make the provisions of his Coercion Act apply to the conspirators? Also let the working-class note the vastly-different treatment meted out to the law-breaking employers to that accorded the coal strike officials.

It is quite possible that Wade & Co., in the foolishness of their legal imbecility and class-inspired criminality, may even dare to prosecute the unionists who are the victims of the employers' profit-making conspiracy. In that case, the Australian working class should make a supreme effort to rise to the possibilities of such an occasion.

This paper is with the men, and such assistance as can be given, in these columns or in any other way, may be readily commanded; for—let us repeat what we have emphasized a hundred times before—THE WORKERS ARE ALWAYS RIGHT when they meet the employers in conflict. THE EXPLOITERS ARE ALWAYS WRONG!

To prevent a public welcome, Messrs. Burns and Lewis were turned out of Goulburn Jail at 7 on Monday night, instead of 6.30 Tuesday morning. There's no sneak-thief trick too dirty for the present Government to employ.

## Capitalism's Trail of Blood.

### Or, The Dignity of Labor.

For if blood be the price of all your wealth,  
 Good God! we have paid it in full.

LIONEL POOLE, electric linesman, fell 20 feet at Rozelle on Saturday. His foot was fractured, and he suffered also from abrasions.

A. Hill, postmaster at Cobbadah, near Barraba, poisoned himself with strychnine. They sweated him to his death.

Daniel Sullivan, employed grubbing and clearing land at Tomingley, was brought into the Peak-hill Hospital with a fractured skull. He was unconscious when brought in.

In Great Britain during the five months ended May, 1910, the total number of work-people reported as killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen) was 1266, as compared with 1265 in 1909. The total number of seamen killed in the same period was 484 in 1910 and 402 in 1909.

George Paynting was jammed between a cage and the side of the shaft in the Little Go mine, Ironbark, Vic., on Tuesday, and killed.

Thirteen persons have been killed and 12 injured in a collision between a special locomotive and a passenger train from San Francisco at a place called Ignacio.

There are said to be 60,000 cases of cholera in Russia, where 200 victims have succumbed at the Donetz mines alone.

## Answers to Correspondents.

A.U., Brisbane.—Postal note for 12s, also "copy," received. Thanks.

S.J.B., Childers, Q.—Received; thanks. We think you have done well. Writing.

D.O.S., Fitzroy, Vic.—Thanks.

W.E., Mount Druitt.—Thanks for letter. The International Socialist Party is not connected with Mr. McCrystal's movement. What is wrong with your Labor Party is that it is not for the working class. You should all study the Socialist position, and get into the ranks of the S.F.A., which alone fights at all times and in all places for working-class interests. Could not attend meeting; thanks for invitation.

H.S.B., Auckland.—Thanks.

### Propaganda Fixtures.

DOMAINS—Feldhusen (chair), Riley, Wilson, Holland.

MARTIN PLACE—Slade (chair), Mrs. Harris, Williams.

GOULBURN-STREET—Hocking (chair), Feldhusen, Riley.

The Evening Meetings will commence at 7.

### Committee and General Meetings.

The following meetings will be held at 274 Pitt-street, Sydney, during the forthcoming week:—

Alternate Tuesdays, 8—S.F.A. Administrative Council.

Monday, 7.30 p.m.—Club Executive.

Monday, 8.30 p.m.—Joint Executives.

Monday, 9.15 p.m.—Party Executive.

H. Scott Bennett writes from Auckland: "Congratulations upon the appearance and contents of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST. We shall probably be ordering a large bundle weekly from you in the near future."

Brisbane Socialist Propaganda League has changed its name to the Industrial Workers of the World.

Several special articles by regular contributors are unavoidably crowded out of this issue.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST is booming in every State of the Australian Commonwealth, as well as in New Zealand.

Do YOU want THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST to live up to its present standard, and win through as the fighting, clear-spoken paper of Revolutionary Socialism. Then YOU must help us with the Press Fund. Send that donation of yours along at once to O. W. Jorgensen, 274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

About the meanest and most contemptible trick of the Wade Government was their dirty little effort to block the demonstration of welcome to Messrs. Gray and Brennan at the Bathurst jail gates by hustling them out of jail at 6.30 on Monday evening, instead of 6.30 Tuesday morning, and leaving them to tramp the distance into town.

History repeats itself just as often as it is safe to repeat the old game on the people.



## LIFE'S BATTLES.

Some battles we are called to fight  
With comrades cheering on,  
With certain victory in sight;  
But some, we fight—alone;  
And though the one we cannot share  
Is oft the hardest fight,  
A martyr's courage makes us dare  
When fighting for the right.

When traitors turn and cowards flee  
The forces of the strong,  
And leave us with the enemy  
To fight a cruel wrong,  
The thought that fire makes iron steel,  
That hard blows make it bright,  
Makes heroes of us when we feel  
We're fighting for the right.

When, too, at length the "light that failed"  
Leaves desolate life's track,  
A star thought by the mind unveiled  
Will win our courage back,  
'Twill bring a glow into the cheek,  
And make our dull eyes bright,  
To know that though oppressed and weak  
We fought hard for the right?

—LOUISA LAWSON.

## International Notes.

## Germany.

J. B. ASKEW writes in *London Justice*, of July 2: To show the fright of the bourgeoisie on account of the successes of the Social-Democracy an election in the Württemberg constituency of Canstatt was at first put off till the end of August on the plea that the agricultural workers and the peasants could not vote before on account of the harvest. This decision to delay the election aroused such a storm that the Württemberg Government has now discovered that the peasants will be able to vote all the same if the election comes in July; and they point out at the same time that this will put an end to the great and dangerous excitement which is being aroused by the election in that constituency. At the last election in this constituency the National Liberal won with 18,787, as against 15,488 for the Socialist. It will be interesting to see how the election goes. I may say Canstatt, which lies quite close to Stuttgart, was the place of the great international meeting before the last Congress, the celebrated meeting on the Canstatter Wasen.

Between the Conservatives and their "Christian Socialist" allies a dispute has broken out because the Conservatives are now beginning to claim for themselves constituencies hitherto held by the "Christian Socialists," whose main characteristic is their anti-Semitism. As long as the Conservatives were strong they found it convenient to tolerate the existence of a party really conservative but apparently with strong democratic sympathies to win in constituencies where they would not gain much sympathy. Now the conditions are changing; the small masters get more and more bitterly reactionary the more insecure they feel their position; and no doubt also the Conservative Party themselves do not feel strong enough to give away any constituencies they could hold for themselves.

The National Liberal Party has of late been making vigorous efforts to capture the peasants.

Having won a fresh seat in the Reichstag, the Socialist group numbers now 49 instead of 40 as at the beginning of the present Reichstag. The seat just won has never before been held by our party. From 1871 the National Liberals have been in possession of the constituency. The National Liberal member was a Count Oriola, who was a big landlord and more conservative than the Conservatives, and simply joined the National Liberals because there was no Conservative Party in Hesse. The National Liberal vote varied between 5,000 and 11,000 votes—was for the most part usually about 8,000 to 9,000. The Socialist vote began in 1871 with 114; in 1881 fell to 89 votes; 1884, 335 votes; 1887, 786 votes; 1890, 1,949 votes; 1893, 2,453 votes; 1898, 4,204 votes; 1903, 6,783 votes; 1907, 6,234 votes; and 1910, 9,551 votes (second ballot, 11,545). The Agrarians got at the first ballot 6,395, at the second ballot 9,413, thus the Agrarian vote rose by 3,018 and the Socialist by 1,994 in the second ballot as compared with the first. For the first time at this election the National Liberals and the Agrarians were opposed to each other—Count Oriola being dead—and the National Liberal got 4,397 votes at the first ballot, the most of which would seem to have gone to the Agrarian at the second ballot. The Radicals did not even put up a candidate this time.

## Great Britain.

Luella Twining (of the American Socialist Party) who is an American delegate to the International Congress, is visiting England. Miss Twining was Secretary to W. D. Haywood during the trying time of his prosecution as secretary of the Western Federation of Miners.

The following resolution was passed at the S.D.P. Executive meeting held on June 28, "The London Section of the Executive Council hereby dissociates itself from Tom Mann's advocacy of industrial unionism on the platform of the S.D.P., and par-

ticularly objects to the belittling of political action at a time when no other action is possible in the interests of the Socialist movement and the working classes of this country."

## Belgium.

The Belgian Socialist Party held an urgency meeting on a recent Sunday to consider the best tactics to employ in consequence of the last elections. Four hundred to five hundred delegates were present. The order of the day, presented by Huysmans, was that which was finally adopted. This order of the day conciliates the two conflicting opinions. It declares that it is the duty of the Socialist deputies, as soon as they enter the Chamber, to demand the revision of the law on proportional representation, and to use all their authority to obtain a dissolution. It also declares it to be their duty to bring forward the discussion on the Old Age Pensions Bill, the limitation of the hours of labor, the right of association and coalition for the employees in the public services. The Socialist Party is to continue its trade union action hand in hand with its political action, and to pursue a vigorous propaganda for the realization of the Socialist program.

## France.

A demonstration was held in Paris in favor of the proportional system of election, and passed the following resolution: "This meeting of the 2,000 citizens assembled in the Wagram Hall, having listened to M. Charles Benoist, and other speakers, acclaim electoral reform and the proportional system, and invite the Chamber to assure it immediate realization."

The funeral of the workman Cler, who died in consequence of injuries inflicted on him by the police in the recent strike disturbances, was the occasion for demonstration on the part of the Parisian proletariat. On leaving the cemetery the demonstrators marched back to the town singing the "International." At the Flandre Gate the police and cavalry awaited them, and suddenly made a brutal charge with drawn swords upon the crowd of men, women and children. A terrible stampede took place in which many persons were injured. A collaborator of *L'Humanité*, comrade Laquet, was arrested.

The Court of Assizes of the Seine has acquitted Rips, a Russian revolutionist, who attempted to kill Colonel Von Kotten, a police spy. When Rips was in prison in Russia, in 1906, Von Kotten did his utmost to persuade him to enter the service of the police, and Rips committed what he now acknowledges to have been the fatal mistake of pretending to agree to Von Kotten's offers, in reality in order to fight him with his own weapons. Burzeff having pointed out to him the ignominy of his conduct, Rips, to avenge his honor, shot at Von Kotten. The trial threw some striking flashlights on the spy and agent-provocateur system. Von Kotten began by defending himself, but finally confessed the miserable part he had played in the affair. Jean Longuet was in the witness-box, and gave information which he had collected in his book on the methods of Russian police. He was followed by Jaures, Roubanovitch, Burzeff, and others. Rips was defended by the counsels Tomigini and our comrade Willm. The jury were twenty minutes considering their verdict, which was delivered amid a storm of applause.

## Switzerland.

The party press in Switzerland is at present much occupied with the doings of the political police, as a voluminous document sent from headquarters to the police has fallen into the hands of the *Berner Tagwacht*. This document contains no less than thirty names of Swiss, German, Italian, and French persons who are being watched and followed by the political police. At the head is the name of the Secretary of the Swiss Metal Workers' Union, comrade A. Graber, resident in Geneva, who is entered as "anti-militarist." Our comrades in the National Council have now interpolated the Bundesrath upon the question of the political police.

## United States.

The Roumanian Socialists were announced to hold a convention in Cleveland, Ohio, July 4 and 5. The Scandinavian Socialists were also to hold a national convention July 2, 3, and 4 in Chicago.

In consideration of the fact that seventy-odd thousand miners in the State of Illinois were engaged in a battle for the life of their organization with the coal operators, backed by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, the National Executive Committee unanimously adopted a motion offering all possible assistance to the strikers and their organization. In the motion the suggestion is made to the management of the various party papers located in Illinois to give the maximum of space to the subject and, if necessary and possible, to issue special editions. The papers referred to are published in the following languages—Dailies: English, Bohemian, Polish and German. Weeklies: German, Slovak, Slavonic, Danish, Italian, Jewish and Swedish. Total number of publications, eleven.

An attempt has been made to block the *Appeal to Reason* from going through the post-office; this as a result of the *Appeal's* exposures of corruption in high places.

## Germany.

The Court of Appeal refused to quash the sentence of one month's imprisonment to which the editor of *Vorwärts* was condemned in consequence of the "suffrage promenade" on March 6. The Court, indeed, decided that the verdict was untenable in so far as it charged Barth with having organized the procession and open air meeting. But still the sentence must be upheld, as it was not only pronounced on account of this, but also for the crime of inciting to disobedience against the law of association.

Colonel Guedke, a well-known German writer, declares that Germany is marching to economic ruin and war through refusing to consider the limitation of armaments.

## Spain.

A great Catholic demonstration, alleged to have been organized from the Vatican, which was to have been held at San Sebastian on Sunday, was abandoned.

The Spanish Cabinet has approved of a bill providing for compulsory military service in the case of all Spaniards.

The Church and State are engaged in a fierce struggle in Spain—a struggle in which great economic interests are likely to be involved, and which may not only end with the dethronement of the Church, but possibly with the loss of King Alfonso's billet as well.

A delegation of Republican deputies visited the President of the Council and asked him to present to the Chamber an extended project of amnesty, specially applicable to all the Spaniards who were expelled from Barcelona last July.

M. Canalias replied that the partial amnesty already promulgated was sufficient, and that the delegation might telegraph to all the expelled persons that they have the right to return freely to Spain.

The delegation, however, insisted that the Government should present a new project of amnesty to the Cortes for this purpose.

## Italy.

The two central trade union organizations of Rome, the Reformist Chamber of Labor and the Syndicalist Lega del Lavoro, which have been in enmity with each other, have at last agreed to amalgamate.

The municipal elections in Milan resulted in a splendid success for the Socialist lists.

The twenty-five candidates of the party are all elected, and their lowest number of votes was 10,500, while the Constitutional list obtained 7,000, and that of the Radicals 5,500 votes. The Socialists have also gained 4 seats for the Provincial Council.

## Sweden.

The Stockholm Riksdag deputy Fricherr Erik Palmstierna, hitherto a member of the Liberal group, has come over to the Social-Democratic group.

There will now be a Social-Democrat in the Swedish Herrenhaus (Second Chamber). This body is elected by the members of the Landsting, and as the proportional system is in force the minority are able to be represented.

## Denmark.

Copenhagen Socialists made use of the phonograph as a stump speaker during a recent election campaign. It was deaf to all interjections, and talked down all the row of Danish Fat.

The United Woodworkers complain that two their members have been victimised for giving evidence against their employers before the Wages Board. Sydney Labor Council has decided to send a letter to the employers about the matter! That's about the full measure of protection that sectionalism can give to the workers when they're victimised. A demand for the immediate re-instatement of the victims, to be followed by the calling out of A.L.F. the firm's employees in the case of refusal, would be the method of an effectively-organized union. The United Laborers of South Australia have given some valuable object lessons in this direction quite recently. But why is the name of the victimising firm withheld?

The master minds of all nations, in all ages, have sprung into affluent multitude from the mass of the nation, and from the mass of the nation only—not from its privileged classes; and so, no matter what the nation's intellectual grade was, whether high or low, the bulk of its ability was in the long rank of its nameless and poor, and so it never saw the day that it had not the material in abundance whereby to govern itself.—MARK TWAIN.

An employee of Josiah Thomas's post office, who desires to stand as Labor candidate for a Federal by-election, has been notified that if he does stand he will be sacked! How's that for full rights of citizenship?

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## THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN

OR, BREAKING THE GOLDEN CALF OF ARBITRATION.

BY DANDELION.

WHEN Mr. John Paterson was asked if he had anything to say in reply to the accusation of Mr. Bowling that he had, by taking a position on the wages board, betrayed the trust reposed in him, Mr. Paterson said he did not wish to say anything at present, and he would have to bear, for a time, the frowns and grey faces of the men whom he was doing his best to benefit. He considered it would be unwise to say anything at present; but when the present trouble was over he would have something to say that would be a revelation. *Newcastle Herald*, Dec. 22, 1909.

Let the Socialist Band softly play: "When the Mi te Have Rolled Away."

Now the recent storm has vanished from the beaten worker's skies  
And the striker—freedom banished—neath the heel of Blubber lies.

I recall my declaration when the strike was raging fast  
That I'd make a revelation when the cyclone had blown past.

So—Chorus.  
You shall know what I have known,  
And behold what I've been shown,  
Now the darkened desolation is displaced by peace once more  
I will make my revelation that I promised you before!

I have patiently been bearing all the anger and the scorn  
Of the workers; and their swearing has my tender feelings torn.

For my motives all are noble, though my act's misunderstood,  
And I'm doing *seemingly* evil that the outcome may be good!

But—Chorus.

I have been an agitator since the golden days of youth;  
And no leader could speak straighter when it paid to speak the truth,  
But no general discloses all his hand—or even half—  
Or delays to net like Moses and *destroy the golden calf!*

So—Chorus.

I am just a modern Moses sent to lead the workers forth  
From the land where Fat reposes, and Want stalks east, west, and north;  
And there's method in my madness, though I'm covered with disgrace,  
For behind my seeming sadness I conceal a smiling face!

For—Chorus.

You'll remember Peter Bowling smote the calf, with pen and voice,  
Set the anti-bull a-rolling (and it made my heart rejoice),  
Peter battered Arbitration, in the columns of the press,  
Till the idol of the nation was a picture of distress!

And each miner well remembers how I also held the fort  
And declaimed, with eyes like embers, 'gainst the Wadges Board and Court,  
With its lawyers and their breezes, and its solemn farce for flats,  
Where the monkey bites the cheeses for the arbitrating rats!

As an anti-arbitrator I have climbed a wondrous height,  
Ere the workers called me "traitor" I was foremost in the fight,  
And my principle's unshaken, though appearances betray;  
For the course that I have taken is the straight and narrow way!

Therefore—Chorus.

Hence I make this revelation, for I've been misunderstood,  
That the golden calf the nation all adores is made of wood!  
Arbitration—this, your saviour—is a gilded hollow god!  
And my recent strange behaviour sets his tombstone in the sod!

2nd Chorus.

Now you know what I have known,  
Now you see what I've been shown,  
That your idol—Arbitration—which the labor fakirs hand—  
This aratur of the nation is a most expensive fraud!

In the future don't be guided by the fakirs on your back,  
Hear the people you've derided who have pointed out the track  
To the socialistic station where you'll stand erect and free;  
And just bury Arbitration in the grave prepared by me!

For—2nd Chorus.

While the Lloyd victimising case was before Adelaide Trades and Labor Council, a delegate named Marshall denied that Lloyd had been victimised, and also announced that Lloyd had admitted the charges made against him, and didn't want the matter reopened. In the daily paper that contained that Council meeting report was also a letter from Mr. Lloyd explaining his victimisation and flattening out the charges made against him.

## SONG OF THE "LOWER CLASSES."

We plough and sow, we're so very, very low  
That we delve in the dirty clay;  
Till we bless the plain with the golden grain,  
And the hill with the fragrant hay.

Our place we know, we're so very, very low,  
'Tis down at the landlord's feet;  
We're not too low the grain to grow,  
But too low the bread to eat.

We're low, very low—near, nabbie, we know—  
And yet at our plastic power  
The plan at the landlord's feet will grow  
Into palace, and church and tower.

Then prostrate we fall in the rich man's hall,  
And cringe at the rich man's door,  
We're not too low to build the wall,  
But too low to tread the floor.

We're low, we're low—near, nabbie, we know—  
And yet from our fingers gild  
The silken flow and the robes that glow  
Round the limbs of the sons of pride.

And what we get, and what we give,  
We know, and we know our share;  
We're not too low the cloth to weave,  
But too low the cloth to wear.

We're low, we're low—near, nabbie, we know—  
And yet when the trumpet ring  
The thrust of a poor man's arm will go  
Through the heart of the proud king.

We're low, we're low—near, nabbie, we know—  
We're only the hand and the foot,  
We're not too low to kill the foe,  
But too low to share the spoil.

—HARRY JONES.

Philosophy of Socialism

Origin of the Present Laboring Class.

Let us go back for a moment to the time when the modern wage-working class had its origin. While the present laborer is the legitimate successor of all the previous classes who have lived and suffered and died beneath the social juggernaut, he has had an origin and a history of his own as much apart from other history as any class of social stage is separated from the vast network of events, the movements of which historians chronicle.

In the middle of the last century he still owned his tools and the material upon which he worked, and was the rightful owner as well as the actual possessor of the finished product. Things were not produced for some unknown impersonal market, but for some specific individual whose needs they were to supply. Prices were fixed by custom or law, and competition was felt but little as an economic force. Laws of the market fixed the breadth and fineness of cloth, size and weight of bread, price and quality of corn, and the time and place of bargaining. Poor laws and the assize of wages determined the rate of wages and the hours of labor. Laws of settlement immovably fixed the abode of great masses of humanity. Exchange between trading cities was hampered, restricted, and regulated at every point in the interest of a multitude of little cities of nobility residing in the centers of trade. Population was gathered in small social groups—towns, villages, and parishes, around individual members of the ruling class, and held together by the system of land tenure previously referred to, or by a personal tie to a small employer. But within this apparently fixed and permanent social organization, there were the developing germs of a mighty transformation that was destined to change all this almost in the twinkling of an eye as compared with former social changes.

A new continent was being won to settlement. New markets were springing up over the entire world. New routes of travel and trade opened population and changed its character. The methods of production grew wholly inadequate to the changed conditions. Watt, Stephenson, Arkwright, Nasmyth, Hargreaves, and a multitude of others transformed the tools of the laborer until they produced beyond the wildest dreams of

former days. A single factory now demanded the entire world as a market for its vast product, and the railway and the steamship opened the way for the distribution thus demanded.

## New Social Relations from New Economic Conditions.

The manner in which society produced its "goods" was completely transformed. New relations of man to the external world were introduced. The social environment was changing. Society was securing its "goods" from nature in a new way. By the biological analogy, and in obedience to the economic law with which we started we should now expect to see great changes take place in all social institutions. When a plant or animal meets with new conditions in its struggle for existence it either perishes or changes the form of its structure. For example, the Australian parrots becoming meat eaters, their stomach, beak, and talons became transformed for that purpose. Everywhere the same law governs. The production and distribution of what the organism decides to be its "goods" determines all else. The time of which we speak illustrates this.

The new economic relations demanded new social organization. The new developments were hampered by the old restrictions that sought to determine by law the relations of man to man. The old nobility had nested upon custom enacted into law. It desired stability and had used the powers of the state which it controlled to secure that end. The just arising mercantile class, which had been produced by the new economic condition, wished freedom of trade and contract that they might not be fettered in the extension of markets and exploitation of labor. They overthrew the nobility and landed class, gained control of the political power, and becoming the dominant class enacted their class interests into legal regulations. They inaugurated the reign of *laissez faire*, competition, and free contract. They abolished the old laws of the market and opened wide the flood-gates of adulteration, shoddy, advertising and all the tricks of the trade. They broke down the old barriers that hedged the laborer about with restrictions and protection, and gave to him "freedom of contract": freedom to little children scarce out of babyhood, to be harnessed to cars beneath the ground or to toil for long hours in herds in the newly-erected hells called factories; freedom to women to enter occupations that swept them off like sheep before a plague and laid the curse upon unborn generations; freedom to men to starve by thousands upon the fields of England because they had been released from bondage to their means of production. They swept away the restrictions on international commerce and inaugurated "free trade": free trade with China in opium, at the muzzles of British cannon; free trade in brass watches, tinsel ornaments and vile rum with African tribes, amid the rattle of Gatling guns and the crack of repeating rifles firing "dum-dum" bullets; and finally free trade in American capitalist products of a similar nature with the islands of the sea, under the protection of thirteen-inch guns and dynamite cruisers. Everywhere and at all times the capitalist class has used its position as a governing class to advance its interests with a recklessness and an abandon never attempted by any previous ruling class.

We have searched carefully for the greatness of England. We have come to the conclusion that it exists in the swollen heads of the people who talk about it.

The one thing the workers can secure is their insecurity. This is the zest of the life given by Capitalism.

—Industrialist.

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